

Claims

1. A method of intelligent network service provision by a first network element, comprising the steps of:

 Storing network user status information at said first network element;

5 Receiving at the first network element a message from a second network element, said message associated with a change in network user status information;

 Updating said stored information; and

10 Providing services to said network user dependant on said network user status information.

2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

 at said second network element, sending a message to each of a predetermined set of network elements, said message associated with a change
15 in network user status information,

 wherein said predetermined set includes said first network element.

3. A method according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

 at said second network element, selecting said predetermined set of
20 network elements according to the change in network user status information.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the change in network user status information is one of user activated, user deactivated, user deleted, user identifier code updated, user service screened and user service suppressed.

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5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said user identifier code is an international mobile subscriber identity.

30 6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the first and second network elements are wireless network elements.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the first network element is a service control function.

8. A method according to claim 1, wherein the second network element is a
5 home location register.

9. A computer program for performing the method according to claim 1.

10. A computer program according to claim 9 stored in machine readable form.

11. A computer program according to claim 9 on a storage medium.

12. A method of sharing network user status information in a communications network, said method comprising the steps of:

15 storing network user status information at a first network element; and
 sending a message to each of a predetermined set of network elements,
said message associated with a change in network user status information.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein each of said predetermined set
20 of network elements are arranged to provide services to network users.

14. A method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of:
 selecting said predetermined set of network elements according to the
change in network user status information.

25 15. A computer program for performing the method according to claim 12.

16. A computer program according to claim 15 stored in machine readable
form.

30 17. A computer program according to claim 15 on a storage medium.

18. A service providing network element comprising:
a memory arranged to store network user status information;
a receiver arranged to receive a message from a second network element,
5 said message associated with a change in network user status information;
a processor arranged to read said message and update said network user
status information stored in said memory; and
a transmitter arranged to provide services to a network user dependent on
said network user status information.

10 19. A service providing network element according to claim 12, wherein said
services are intelligent network services.

15 20. A service providing network element according to claim 12, said memory
comprising a database.

21. A network element comprising:
a memory arranged to store network user status information; and
a transmitter arranged to send a message to each of a predetermined set
20 of service providing network elements, said message associated with a change in
network user status information.

22. A network element according to claim 21 comprising:
a selector arranged to select said predetermined set of service providing
25 network elements according to said change in network user status information.

23. A communications network comprising:
a service providing network element according to claim 18; and
a network element according to claim 21.

24. A communications network according to claim 23, wherein said network is a wireless network.
25. A communications network according to claim 24, wherein said network is
5 a cellular mobile network.